



Calibration of Thermometers and/or Data Loggers

Please be aware that it is your responsibility to have outdated thermometers and/or data loggers recalibrated at your own expense. Please do not send them back to the Maine Immunization Program. You may send them to one of the manufacturers listed below or another certified company of your choice.

TMDE Labs, Inc.

Attn: Allen Tripp
839 North River Road
Richmond, ME 04357
Phone: (207) 737-4493
Email: allen@tdme.com

Control Company

4455 Rex Road
Friendswood, Texas 77546 USA
Phone: (281) 482-1714
Fax: (281) 482-9448
Website: http://www.control3.com/contact_us.htm

Control Solutions, Inc.

5903 Genoa-Red Bluff
Pasadena, TX 77507
Phone: (281) 892-2500
Fax: (281) 892-2501
Email:
customer.service@controlsolutionsinc.com

It is also important for you to retain the calibration date certificates that are given to you once your thermometers/data loggers have been calibrated. During Vaccines for Children Compliance Site Visits, a health educator will require you to show them these certificates. Please be sure to have these readily available for any upcoming visit.

* Please send entire thermometer/data logger including glycol bottle to your chosen recalibration company with the following information:

- Your Practice Name
- Mailing Address
- Phone Number

Transport of Vaccines Purchased with Funds through the Maine Immunization Program

The Federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) discourages regular transport of vaccines. Proper management of vaccine inventory at both the Maine Immunization Program (MIP) and provider level plays a major role in preventing the need to transport vaccines. The MIP actively reviews provider orders, inventory levels, and provider profiles in order to make necessary adjustments to order amounts prior to approval. Given that providers generally receive vaccine within a week of MIP's approval of an order, smaller, more frequent orders are preferred over large orders that may increase the risk of expiration in the provider's office.

The terms "transport" and "shipping" have different meanings although often used interchangeably. Transport involves the movement of vaccine over a short time and distance between providers. Transport is typically performed by MIP staff or providers using private vehicles or courier services. The expected length of transport is less than eight (8) hours or regular business day. The CDC's expectation is that transporting vaccines should be a rare occurrence .

Shipping, as compared to *transport*, typically involves further distance and time to move vaccine between locations. Often, vaccine is moved using a large, shipping management service and requires adherence to shipping standards that go beyond CDC guidance for the transport of vaccine. CDC does not recommend immunization programs or their providers shipping vaccines due to the potential risks to the cold chain and ultimately the viability of the vaccine.

The CDC Storage and Handling Toolkit offers *transport* guidance based on current available data. CDC continues to gather information to improve upon this guidance, but recommends transport of vaccine only when the immunization program can ensure that vaccines can be maintained at appropriate temperatures at all times.

If *transport* must occur, CDC strongly recommends the use of a thermometer with continuous monitoring and recording capabilities. All thermometers should have a current and valid certificate of calibration. CDC does not recommend, or find as an acceptable alternative, one-time use temperature indicators since they do not provide adequate data on excursions that may occur during transport.

Please refer to the Storage and Handling Toolkit for more information:
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit.pdf>

AFIX corner

Self-Assessment

How many of these strategies do you have in place?

- Running Reminder/Recall
- Simultaneous Administration of Vaccines
- Adherence to Contraindications Guidance
- Reviewing records to identify patients that have MOGED (Moved or Gone Elsewhere)
- Providing information regarding vaccinations to parents/guardians
- Calling to remind parents/guardians of upcoming appointments
- Following up with parents/guardians whom miss scheduled appointments
- Flagging patient charts to identify missing immunizations

How many did you check off?

How many will you implement?

Important Links

The 2014 Recommended Immunization Schedules have been released for children and adults. Please see below:

[2014 Recommended U.S. Child & Adolescent Immunization Schedules](#)

[2014 Recommended U.S. Adult Immunization Schedule](#)

[Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years — United States, 2014, MMWR, February 3, 2014; 63\(Early Release\):1–2. \[PDF\]](#)

[Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Immunization Schedule for Adults Aged 19 Years or Older — United States, 2014](#)

VACCINE FUN FACT

Vaccine diluents **are not** interchangeable. Liquid diluents can be made up of many different components including sodium chloride, sterile water, distilled water, or a mixture of sterile water, calcium carbonate, and xanthan. It is important to always use the diluent that came with the vaccine.

Please refer to the following document, “*Vaccines with Diluents: How to Use Them*” for more information:

<http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3040.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact the Maine Immunization Program at:
Phone (207) 287-3746 or (800) 867-4775

